

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
WESTERN DIVISION AT DAYTON

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

Case No. 3:24-cr-81

vs.

STEVEN J. WERLING,

District Judge Michael J. Newman

Defendant.

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**ORDER: (1) ADOPTING THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE (Doc. No. 53); (2) GRANTING THE PARTIES' JOINT MOTION FOR CHANGE OF PLEA (Doc. No. 35); (3) ACCEPTING DEFENDANT'S PLEA OF GUILTY AS CHARGED IN COUNT 1 OF THE INFORMATION; AND (4) DEFERRING THE DECISION OF WHETHER TO ACCEPT THE PLEA AGREEMENT UNTIL THE SENTENCING HEARING**

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This criminal case is before the Court on the Report and Recommendation of the United States Magistrate Judge (Doc. No. 53), recommending that the Court accept Defendant's guilty plea. There being no objections, the Court **ADOPTS** the Report and Recommendation in full. The parties' joint motion to change plea (Doc. No. 35) is **GRANTED**, and the Court **ACCEPTS** Defendant's plea of guilty as charged in Count 1 of the Information, which charges him with Possession of an Unregistered Firearm, specifically a destructive device, in violation of Title 26 U.S.C. §§ 5841, 5861(d), and 5871. The Court **DEFERS** the decision of whether to accept the plea agreement until the sentencing hearing.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

April 3, 2025

s/Michael J. Newman  
Hon. Michael J. Newman  
United States District Judge